LIBRARY

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

HEALTH

OF THE

URBAN DISTRICT OF WILLENHALL

FOR THE YEAR

1948

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

HEALTH

OF THE

URBAN DISTRICT OF WILLENHALL

FOR THE YEAR

1948

C. H. Bowcott & Sons, Printers, Wednesbury & Darlaston. 9/493

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health and Assistant County Medical Officer :

R. M. Campbell, M.A., M.B., ChB., D.P.H.

Senior Sanitary Inspector :

H. E. T. Lowbridge, Cert.S.I.B., Cert. Meat and Other Foods, Cert. in Sanitary Science as applied to Buildings and Public Works.

Deputy Sanitary Inspector :

G. Lowbridge, Cert. S.I.B., Cert Meat and Other Foods.

Additional Sanitary Inspector :

A. R. Humphries, Cert. S.I.B. (Resigned 10th October, 1948).

Pupil Sanitary Inspector :

J. A. Richards.

Clerical Staff :

Miss B. Banks.
Miss M. Edwards (Resigned 31st August, 1948).
Miss O. J. Power (Commenced 18th October, 1948).

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICES,
WALSALL STREET,
WILLENHALL,
STAFFS.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
WILLENHALL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you the Annual Report on the health of the district for the year 1948. It has been drawn up on similar lines to the annual report of recent years.

As measured by the vital statistics the health of Willenhall has maintained the satisfactory position of 1947. The general death rate of 9.4 has shown a further fall from the level of 10.1 in the previous year. The downward trend of the birth rate noted last year has been arrested, and this year's figure of 20.8 is somewhat higher than the rate of 19.7 for 1947. Although the same number of infants have died as in the year 1947, the infant mortality rate of 44.0 per thousand births is lower as a result.

The causes of death have not varied significantly from the experience of last year. The number of deaths from tuberculosis and the number of new cases notified are about the same as in 1947. Deaths from tuberculosis continue to rank high among the causes of death in striking contrast with the common infectious diseases, to which no deaths were ascribed during the year.

The changes in the health services of the country, which were brought about on July the 5th by the operation of the National Health Service Act, 1946, had less immediate effect in your area than in these county districts that had administered the personal health services for maternity and child welfare. Responsibility for the immunisation of school-children against diphtheria, and the provision of an ambulance service was assumed by the Staffordshire County Council as Local Health Authority. Every assistance was given by your staff in ensuring that these services were continued during the period of transition. Later in the year the Wednesbury Area Health Committee took up its delegated functions in the day-to-day administration of the County Council's schemes under the National Health Service Act, 1946. The local management committee for the County Council's day nurseries was then dissolved. The sanitary and environmental health work of your Authority was unaffected by these alterations in the health services, and the minor losses of function which have been noted are small in comparison.

The unsatisfactory and overcrowded living conditions of many families in the town have not been measurably improved by the number of new houses completed during the year. The Housing Committee have continued to give high priority to the rehousing of tuberculosis, where this measure would lessen the spread of infection in the family. Some of the worst unhealthy and insanitary houses have been demolished during the year, and one can only hope that it may be possible to deal with unfit houses on a larger scale in the future.

The preliminary reconnaissance of unfit houses in the district was completed in spite of the difficulties arising from temporary shortage of staff, to which the Senior Sanitary Inspector has referred in his report. The number of houses falling into this class forms more than one in five of the total houses in the area. Other aspects of sanitary work such as food hygiene and atmospheric pollution have been the subject of more interest and work during the year, and this has led inevitably to the demand for an increase in the number of Sanitary Inspectors, which has now been put into effect.

The building used as a Cleansing station during the war years has been adapted as the new offices for the Public Health and Housing Departments during the year, and has been officially opened on May 6th, 1949. The greater space in these offices is much appreciated by the staff used to the cramped accommodation in the Town Hall.

I should like to take this opportunity to thank the members of my staff for their help throughout the year and other officers of the Council for their co-operation. The chairman and members of the Council, and more especially of the Public Health Committee, have shown unfailing interest in the matters brought before them, and I am grateful for their continued help and consideration.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

R. M. CAMPBELL,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

General Statistics.

Area (in acres)	2,834
Population :	
(*a*) 1931 Census	26,195
(*b*) Registrar-General's estimate for mid-year 1948	30,610
Number of Inhabited Houses	7,627
Rateable Value of District	£119,108
Sum Represented by a Penny Rate, 1947-1948	£482

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1948.

Live Births.

	Total.	*Males.*	*Females.*
Legitimate	613	312	301
Illegitimate	24	11	13
Total	637	323	314

Birth Rate per 1,000 civilian population : 20.8.

Still Births.

	Total.	*Males.*	*Females.*
Legitimate	15	7	8
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Total	15	7	8

Rate per 1,000 live and still births : 23.00.
Rate per 1,000 Population : 0.49.

	Total.	*Males.*	*Females.*
Deaths	288	170	118

Death Rate per 1,000 Civilian Population : 9.4.

Deaths from Puerperal Causes ... Nil.

Deaths of infants under one year of age.

	Total.	*Males.*	*Females.*
Total number of Infant Deaths	28	16	12
Total number of Legitimate infants dying	27	16	11
Total number of illegitimate infants dying	1	—	1

Death Rate of Infants under one year :—

All infants per 1,000 live births	44.0
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate births ...	44.0
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate births	41.7
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	45
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ...	6
Deaths from Respiratory Tuberculosis	25
Deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis	28

NOTES ON VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.

The Registrar General's estimate of the population of Willenhall for the year 1948 was 30,610, which represents an increase of 730 on the estimate for the previous year. The excess of births over deaths, or natural increase of population, for the year 1948 was 349.

Births.

There were 637 live births, composed of 323 male births and 314 female births. Twenty four of these births, or 3.8 per cent of the total births, were illegitimate, compared with fifteen illegitimate births in the preceding year.

The birth rate of 20.8 showed a small rise from the rate of 19.7 per 1,000 of the civilian population for the year 1947. The year's rate was also higher than the figures of 19.2 for the 148 smaller towns of comparable size and of 17.9 for England and Wales.

Deaths.

There were fewer deaths in 1948. Two hundred and eighty eight persons died, being 170 males and 118 females. The death rate per 1,000 of the civilian population was thus 9.4, compared with a figure of 10.1 for last year. The death rate for England and Wales as a whole was 10,8. and the rate for the 148 smaller towns was 10.7.

The listed summary of the causes of death shows little change in the principal causes of death, among which heart disease, cancer, bronchitis and pneumonia and tuberculosis take a leading place. The deaths from cancer have fallen by one. Deaths from all forms of tuberculosis have increased by one, and the rate of 0.91 per 1,000 of the population is considerably higher than the rate of 0.51 for England and Wales as a whole. There were no deaths from the common infectious diseases. One death was due to road traffic accident.

Still Births.

There were 15 still births, being seven males and eight females. The still birth rate of 23.00 per 1,000 total (live and still) births shows only a slight increase on the rate of 21.59 per 1,000 in the previous year. Calculated as a rate per 1,000 of the civilian population the figure for 1948 was 0.49, while the rate for England and Wales was 0.42 and for the smaller towns of comparable size 0.43.

Infant Mortality.

The same number of infants died in 1948 as in 1947, namely 28 ; sixteen of these infants were males and twelve were females. Among the illegitimate infants there was one death.

The infant mortality rate from all causes of 44.0 per 1,000 live births is slightly lower than the rate of 47.5 in 1947, because of the higher number of births. This favourable rate however is above the rate of 34 for England and Wales as a whole and of 32 for the smaller towns of comparable size.
Sixteen out of the 28 deaths took place in the first four weeks of life, and thirteen in the first week of life. Deaths from diarrhoea and enteritis under two years of age rose from three in 1947 to six in 1948.

Maternal Mortality.

There was no maternal death during the year.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Public Health Staff.

A list of the staff of the Public Health Department of your Council is given at the beginning of the report. The changes in the sanitary inspectors and clerical staff are indicated.

Since a system of local administration of the services of the Staffordshire County Council under the National Health Services Act, 1946, has been set up, the staff of the County Council in the area are no longer included.

Laboratory Facilities.

Specimens for bacteriological examination are submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Martin Street, Stafford, which is directed by the Medical Research Council for the Ministry of Health. This laboratory in addition to examining specimens sent by medical practitioners deals with material such as ice-cream, water and milk from your Public Health Department and offers assistance in the investigations of outbreaks of infectious disease.

The Chemical Laboratory is at the County Buildings, Stafford.

The staff of both these laboratories have assisted the work of your public health department with their advice and co-operation.

Ambulance Facilities.

The Staffordshire County Council as Local Health Authority became responsible for the ambulance service on 5th July, 1948. The main ambulance station for No. 8 (Wednesbury) area has been established at Clemson Street, Willenhall (Telephone No. Willenhall 580) in the premises which you adapted in 1947 for the town ambulance.

The town ambulance was transferred to the Staffordshire County Council on July the 5th, and the three driver-attendants also passed into the service of the same authority.

Nursing in the Home.

The arrangements of the Willenhall District Nursing Association for provision of general nurses and midwives ceased on 5th July, 1948, when the Staffordshire County Council assumed responsibility for these services under the National Health Service Act, 1946.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

There are three Infant Welfare Centres, one Ante-Natal Clinic, and one School Clinic in the area.

Ante-Natal Clinics.

Three sessions are held weekly at the Clinic, Walsall Street, on Tuesday morning and afternoon, and Friday afternoon.

The attendances in 1948 were as follows :—

Number of New Cases	463
Total number of consultations...	2,879

These figures show some fall in the attendance of new cases, although as measured by the number of live and still births the percentage of expectant mothers attending the Centre was about 71 per cent.

Infant Welfare Centres.

The infant welfare centres in the town are held as follows :—

Willenhall Clinic...	Monday and Wednesday afternoons.
Portobello ...	Thursday afternoon.
Short Heath ...	Friday afternoon.

The attendances in 1948 at the three welfare centres are summarised below :—

Attendances—1948.

	First Attendances.		Total Attendances.	
	Under 1 year.	1—5 years.	Under 1 year.	1—5 years.
Willenhall ...	302	37	3,120	749
Short Heath	119	67	1,449	440
Portobello	95	18	1,157	280
Totals ...	516	122	5,726	1,469

The total attendances of 7,195 are slightly higher than the figure of 6,597 for the previous year. A high proportion (about 80 per cent) of the infants under one year old have attended the centres. The coming into force of the National Health Service Act, 1946, would not seem to have caused any drop during 1947 in the attendances at these centres.

The local Food Office sends a representative to one session a week at each centre to issue welfare foods, including national dried milk, cod liver oil, and orange juice for the children and vitamin supplements for the mothers.

In addition, dried milk and other products for infant feeding are sold at each Centre under the County Council's scheme, or through arrangements made by voluntary workers at Portobello and Short Heath Clinics.

Immunisation and Vaccination.

Immunisation against diphtheria for children under five years of age is freely available during the course of the normal sessions at the Child Welfare Clinics. Immunisation and reinforcing doses are offered to children of school age at entry to school and again between the ages of nine and ten years.

Vaccination and immunisation against Whooping Cough are not carried out at the Welfare Clinics.

Minor Ailment Clinics—School Children.

The minor ailment clinic for school children in Willenhall is open on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings with a nurse in attendance ; and a doctor is available on Mondays. At Short Heath a weekly session is held on Friday mornings with a doctor present in alternate weeks.

Repairs or replacements of glasses for School Children can be arranged by obtaining Form O.S.C. 10 at these clinics as well as through the schools.

Home Helps.

Application for the services of a Home Help should be made to the Area Medical Officer, or to one of the health visitors at the Clinics.

Maternity.

Where admission to hospital for the confinement is desired on social grounds, application should be made to a Health Visitor at the Willenhall Clinic. Hospital treatment for medical reasons is arranged by the patient's doctor.

Tuberculosis.

The Anti-Tuberculosis Clinic for the area is at Bell Street, Wolverhampton, to which a patient is referred by the arrangements of his medical practitioner. If Sanatorium treatment is required, this is arranged by the Tuberculosis Officer.

Infectious Diseases.

Admission of cases of infectious disease to Moxley Isolation Hospital is arranged by the Public Health Department during normal office hours, and by direct arrangements between the medical practitioner and the hospital at other times.

Care of the Aged and Infirm.

One person was referred to the Public Health Department during the latter part of the year with a view to action under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, but no action was necessary as the person elected to enter a hospital voluntarily.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

The Wolverhampton Corporation Water Undertaking provide the main water supply of the area, which is derived from deep wells at Cosford, Dimmingsdale and Tettenhall. The supply is constant and is satisfactory in quality. During the year independent samples for bacteriological and chemical analysis have been taken by the Public Health Department with satisfactory results. Work on the scheme for laying a new main to improve the supply of water to the northern part of the district has been in progress.

A typical result of a bacteriological examination of a sample of water from a rising main in the district showed no presumptive coliform bacilli per 100 m.l.

The result of chemical analysis of the water in supply was as follows :—

	Parts per 1000,000.
Total Solid Matter dried at 212°F.	36.5
Free and Saline Ammonia	0.0088
Albuminoid	0.0100
Nitric Nitrogen	0.43
Chlorine	3.8
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80F°. ...	0.051
Appearance	Nearly clear.
Metallic Contamination...	Extremely minute traces of iron
pH value	7.2
Free Chlorine	0.35 parts per million.
Hardness before boiling	15.1°
Hardness after boiling	8.2°
Temporary hardness	6.9°

The analyst reports that " this water is chemically of satisfactory quality and, if passed bacteriologically, may be considered suitable for drinking."

The exact proportion of dwelling houses and the number of the population supplied by means of stand pipes is not known.

Drainage and Sewerage.

A foul sewer was completed in Wood Lane, and was in process of construction in Noose Lane and the area. The connection of premises in Wood Lane to the sewer was under review.

Sewage Disposal Works.

The report of the Consulting Engineer on the present sewerage and sewage disposal works and his proposals for modification and improvement of the sewage disposal works has been received and been considered by the Council.

Swimming Baths.

Regular monthly analyses of the swimming bath are taken during the season for which it is open. A typical example of the result of an analysis taken on 30th June, 1948, is given below :—

	Parts per 1000,000.
Total Solid Matter dried at 212°F.	67.0
Free and Saline Ammonia	0.0208
Albuminoid	0.0600
Nitric Nitrogen	0.20
Chlorine	20.1
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80°F. ...	0.122
Appearance ... Extremely minute trace of suspended matter	
Metallic Contamination...	None
pH value	6.4
Free Chlorine	0.4 parts per million.

This water shows organic pollution, but amount of free chlorine should render water safe for bathing.

Health in Factories.

The Annual report of work done by the Sanitary Inspectors under the appropriate sections of the Factories Act, 1937, is tabulated in the appendix.

SECTION D.

HOUSING CONDITIONS.

During the year 1948 the number of houses built and completed by the local authority was 130. No houses were built by other persons.

In the post-war period since building under the housing programme began, your authority had then completed 354 houses, of which 204 were permanent houses and 150 were temporary bungalows.

The total number of Council houses in the area at the end of 1948 was 2,397.

Under the scheme for allocation of houses to relieve overcrowding among tuberculous families, eight houses were granted during the year.

The tenancies of 30 houses were allotted to families displaced from the worst dregs of the unfit houses which had been classified as dangerous.

As a result of close co-operation with the Housing Manager in reviewing medical certificates which are submitted in support of applications for rehousing, one has an opportunity to hear many complaints about conditions and to realise the strain on family life in many cases. The housing situation in the town, which has not improved materially during the year and remains one of the most serious problems of the district, can only be relieved by the quicker building of many more houses. Having lacked a flying start in the erection of post-war houses, the Council's housing programme has not gathered any considerable momentum which would achieve this objective.

The survey of unfit houses during the year has given an outline of the size of the problem in the town, and the Senior Sanitary Inspector has amplified it in his comments.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOODS.

The details of the work under this section are mentioned in the Senior Sanitary Inspector's report, and it will be clear that gradual progress is being made to improve the arrangements for this work, and complete the registration of premises.

A course of lectures on the risks of food handling to employees of the British Restaurant and of school and other canteens in the town was held during the month of April. This course was conducted by an invited lecturer whose name was suggested by the Central Council for Health Education.

Food Poisoning Outbreaks.

There was no outbreak of food poisoning during the year.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The general prevalence of infectious diseases in 1948 was lower than in 1947. Scarlet fever was considerably higher, and diphtheria showed little change. Measles notifications while less than in 1947 were high because of an epidemic in the later months of the year. The number of cases of whooping cough was the highest since notification was introduced. There were however no deaths from these infectious diseases.

Scarlet Fever.

One hundred and two cases were notified during the year compared with 45 cases in 1947. While the disease was mild in type and led to no deaths during the year, it was more prevalent than in any year since 1943, when 202 cases occurred.

Diphtheria.

Twenty two notifications of cases of diphtheria were received in 1948. In 12 instances however the final diagnosis from the hospital or other source did not confirm the original notification. The corrected notifications of diphtheria for the year were thus 10 cases, compared with eight in 1947. This corrected notification figure of ten cases is equivalent to a rate of 0.32 per 1,000 of the civilian population.

Five of the confirmed cases were under five years of age, and five were children of school age. None of these children had been immunised. All the 22 patients were treated in hospital. There was no death from diphtheria.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

The arrangements for immunisation against diphtheria among school children, which had hitherto been done under the Council's scheme, passed to the Staffordshire County Council as Local Health Authority on 5th July, 1949. Since the actual day-to-day administration under the No. 9 (Wednesbury) Area was not transferred until December, 1948, and it was continued by your Medical Officer of Health in the interval, there was little or no change in the scheme during the year.

One or more visits were made to the schools each term, as the most acceptable method of carrying on the work. The head teachers were as usual co-operative in obtaining consent from the parents, and routine immunisation or a reinforcement dose was offered to all entrants.

The Staffordshire County Council, being responsible for immunisation of children under five years of age, provides facilities at each of the three Infant Welfare Centres in the town during the course of the normal sessions.

Birthday cards were again sent to infants on their first birthday as a general measure of publicity. Press and Cinema publicity were used as before.

The following table shows the figures up to the 5th July, 1948 :

	Under 5 Years.	*5—15 Years.*	*Total.*
No. receiving full course of immunisation	208	134	342
No. receiving a reinforcing injection ...	—	120	120

These figures cannot be compared with the previous year.

It is however clear that too many parents have still neglected to use the freely available facilities, and this applies especially to the children under five years of age, of whom less than half have been immunised. The tendency to bring infants earlier at eight months of age is satisfactory.

Acute Poliomyelitis.

One notification of acute poliomyelitis was received, and confirmed by the final diagnosis. There was no residual paralysis.

Measles.

Measles cases were 277 with no deaths. The notification rate of 9.23 per 1,000 was comparable with the rate of 9.34 for the country generally. The incidence in the later months of 1948 was high, and continued into 1949.

Whooping Cough.

Whooping Cough with 121 notifications was more prevalent than in any years since notification was introduced in 1940. There were no deaths.

Whooping Cough vaccination was not done before 5th July, 1948, and has not been revived under the Local Health Authority's scheme.

Pneumonia.

The fifteen notified cases give a notification rate of 0.50 compared with 0.73 for England and Wales.

Cerebro Spinal Fever.

No case was notified.

Dysentry.

The single notification of dysentery was not confirmed on final diagnosis.

Miscellaneous.

There were eight notifications of erysipelas.

Tuberculosis.

The notified cases of tuberculosis remaining on the register at the end of 1948 were as follows :—

	Males.	*Females.*
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	160 ...	135
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	36 ...	39

During the year 41 names were removed from the register for the following reasons :—

Died	19
Recovered	17
Diagnosis not confirmed	1
Left District	4

Forty one new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were brought to my notice by notification or otherwise. This gives an attack rate of 1.34 per 1,000 of opoulation. There were three new non-pulmonary cases. All of the 44 new cases of all types were notified before death.

There were 28 deaths from tuberculosis of which 25 were due to tuberculosis of the respiratory system and three to other forms of tuberculosis. The overall death rate from tuberculosis of 0.91 per 1,000 population compares with a figure of 0.51 for England and Wales.

During the year, eight families were rehoused under the Council's scheme for overcrowded tuberculous families.

Cancer.

There were 46 deaths from cancer in 1948 giving a death rate of 1.50 per 1,000 population.

Report of the Senior Sanitary Inspector.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICES,
WALSALL STREET,
WILLENHALL,
STAFFS.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
WILLENHALL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

The work begun by the Health Committee in 1947 in building up the work of the Department has continued during the year.

It has been possible to devote more detailed attention to a number of aspects of the work, among which are securing stricter compliance with notices for repairs to dwelling houses ; to give a little more time to inspection of food and food premises—with regard to premises in this category may be mentioned preparation and sale of ice cream, premises where prepared foods are produced ; to obtain a more rigid system of inspection of horseflesh and of other animals slaughtered for human food ; to secure the demolition of houses upon which demolition orders have been operative for a number of years ; to give greater attention to vermin infested houses and to do exploratory work in atmospheric pollution.

The need for a fourth Sanitary Inspector was becoming essential towards the end of the year.

The zeal of the Health Committee has been apparent in a practical manner when additional staff has been asked for.

If vacancies occur at any time with the existing staff, I earnestly suggest that the posts be filled with all urgency. The rhythm of the work of the Department is upset and the progress at which the Health Committee are aiming suffers untold retardation through long periods of working with depleted staff.

The programme of environmental work before us is heavy ; complacency is a word which can never be permitted to enter the minds of the Health Committee or its officials. Efforts at times only produce meagre results. Any effort, however, properly aimed at environmental change always brings some result—it is never lost.

In the attached report there is much which can be criticised. I only hope for constructive criticism.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. E. T. LOWBRIDGE,

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

HOUSING.

There is no startling advance to report in the standard of housing since last year's report. As is known to everyone interested in the problem not only is the relief of overcrowding dependent upon the provision of new houses, but also, and to a more complex extent, the abolition of the unfit houses. To undertake slum clearance on a grand scale, accommodation must be found for the displaced tenant in houses having rents somewhat comparable with the rents of the houses which are to be demolished.

One is forced to reflect that the opportune occasion for slum clearance very seldom arises. Only for one period does this opportunity seem to have appeared and the period was between 1933 and 1939. Before that spell all attempts failed for various reasons, chiefly because local authorities were required to compensate owners for the demolition of unfit properties. The next obstacle, that of tenants of unfit properties being unable to afford the rents of new Council houses, was overcome by grants to local authorities for persons displaced.

There is a large amount of slum property urgently requiring to be dealt with by demolition, but until more and more new houses are erected efforts are having to be made to keep them wind and weatherproof.

377 Intimations and 143 Statutory Notices were served. Legal proceedings were necessary in one instance to secure compliance with a notice for repairs.

A survey undertaken at the request of the Council to ascertain the number of houses to be dealt with in future slum clearance schemes revealed a total of 1,734 houses. The houses forming this total are by reason of their bad arrangements or by disrepair and sanitary defects (as defined under Section 188 of the Housing Act, 1936) unfit for habitation. Practically all the houses can be included in clearance areas as distinct from treatment as individual houses. Many of the areas will be of considerable size.

Because of the extremely derelict condition of a number of houses, the Council resolved that in instances where a demolition order has become operative and the house is in a dangerous condition to its occupants, a proportion of Council houses in the ratio of one in four be available to rehouse the occupants of such houses. The tenants from 30 houses were rehoused under this heading during the year.

Progress was made during the year with the demolition of houses which had demolition orders upon them, in some instances since the commencement of war. 27 such houses were demolished during the year.

Vermin Infestation.

The Health Committee have been concerned with the possibility of transfer of vermin to Council houses when removals take place and decided to engage a private company to carry out Hydrogen Cyanide Fumigation of the furniture and effects. The use of Hydrogen Cyanide was decided upon because D.D.T. and other insecticides, although an advance upon methods of treatment of the past, offer *no guarantee* that articles will be free from vermin after treatment. Because of the expense of H.C.N. treatment, the Council modified the scheme to provide in future for treatment of cases where " in the opinion of the Public Health Department it is deemed necessary or desirable " that such premises be treated by H.C.N.

A survey of Council houses on the Bilston Road Estate was made to ascertain the extent of vermin infestation. A total of 18 houses out of 262 inspected were found to be bug infested, giving a percentage of 6.8.

The Council treated 98 premises with D.D.T. and Gammexane during the year.

Disinfection and Utility Van.

An eight cwt van was purchased in October to replace a pony drawn disinfecting vehicle. The advantage of the van over the previous mode of transport is too obvious to need much comment. It is of inestimable value for all purposes of the Department.

Tents, Vans, Sheds and Similar Structures.

As in other areas this district is visited frequently by the gipsy type of van dweller. In addition, because of the acute housing shortage, people who would normally occupy houses have made use of disused buses and trailer caravans. It is no solution to the caravan problem (and a colony of caravans without access to adequate water supply and other conveniences can become a problem) to move them from the district of one local authority to another. There is no licensed land for caravans in the district.

Removal of 46 caravans has been effected without recourse to proceedings.

FOOD PREMISES.

Slaughterhouses.

The position regarding the future of slaughtering remains the same as last year. Meat consumed in this district is sent from Wolverhampton Abattoir. Owners of nine slaughterhouses which were used regularly before the war renewed their applications for licences again during the year. The Council again granted the licences for a period of a year. At one of the slaughterhouses a bacon curing licence is held and frequent inspections are made whenever pigs are dressed there.

The licence for the horse slaughterhouse and also for a Knacker's Yard were again renewed.

The standard of Post Mortem inspection of meat follows closely Memo 62/Foods.

The Health Committee approved specifications during the year to which premises for registration for the preparation of cooked meats must conform. The standard for these premises is stringent. Premises are now in the process of alteration to comply with these specifications. Now that white glazed tiles are available it is gratifying to report that butchers are availing themselves of this form of construction for interior walls of preparation rooms.

At the time that improvements are being made to preparation rooms advantage is being taken to bring about improvements in butchers shops. No open fronted shops remain in the district.

Fried Fish Shops.

Inspection of Fried Fish Shops was made during the year. Application for establishment of new fried fish shops are dealt with under Town Planning provisions. The shops, however, must satisfy the provisions of Section 13 of the Food and Drugs Act.

One new Fried Fish Shop was sanctioned.

At the time that many of the Fried Fish Shops already in existence were established, the use of the domestic scullery for cleaning of the fish and preparation of potatoes was permitted. In these instances efforts are made to secure the provision of a separate preparation room. In the case of newly established premises the provision of an adequate separate preparation room is required, containing sink, constant hot water supply, etc.

Ice Cream.

During the year ten premises were registered for the sale of Ice Cream and one premises for the manufacture by the Hot Mix Process and five by the Cold Mix. In the case of retailers and manufacturers, hot water is required to be provided either by means of an immersion heater or by a gas geyser.

The premises of manufacturers of Ice Cream are equipped with properly designed gas or electric sterilisers. Manufacture by the Cold Mix process is permitted in a room entirely devoted and equipped for the manufacture of Ice Cream. In the hot mix process three separate rooms are required. Considerable time has been devoted by the Inspectors in endeavouring to raise the standard of Ice Cream manufacture. Where unsatisfactory samples are obtained arrangements are made for an Inspector to be present and for him to see the whole process of manufacture ; if necessary, samples are taken of the powder before mixing and also at various stages of manufacture.

86 samples were taken and submitted to the Methlene Blue Test, the complete table is at the back of this report but a summary is as follows :—

27	...	Grade 1.
11	...	Grade 2.
19	...	Grade 3.
28	...	Grade 4.

When samples consistently fell into Grade 4 further samples were taken and submitted to the Coliform Test in addition to the Methylene Blue Test. No coliform organism was detected in 1 c.c. of the samples submitted.

Registration of Hawkers—Willenhall U.D.C. Act, 1939.

Under this useful Private Act the Council have powers to insist upon registration of hawkers of meat or meat food product, fish, fruit and vegetables. Registration applies to the person carrying on the trade of Hawker and also to the premises from which he trades.

15 Premises were registered under this Act during the year.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk Shops.

There are seven premises registered for the production of milk and some 120 cows are kept ; one of the seven produces a designated milk.

The milk consumed in the district is mostly delivered by large wholesale distributors having premises outside the district.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.

The Health Committee is ever mindful of the continued existence of Waste Water Closets. This kind of closet is to be found in property of the slum type and also better class property which will be unaffected by demolition for very many years. The presence of these closets is a legacy of the lack of vision which was displayed some forty years ago.

Wolverhampton Corporation Water Undertaking imposed a rate of 10/- per year for the water which was used in the case of wash down water closets. Consequently, to avoid this, owners installed the waste water closet or, as it is sometimes known, the " tipper " closet, which depends upon waste water from the sink for its flushing power.

No contribution is made from the Council to the owners for the conversion of these closets although the Health Committee are giving serious consideration to the making of a grant. Although outside the province of sanitation the economic aspect might be worth while stating.

To convert a waste water closet costs £20 to £25. Pre-war the cost was £6 to £7. Almost without fail it appears to be the practice for an owner to increase the rent of a house upon conversion taking place, by 6d. or 8d. per week. Presumably, if the Council make a contribution of up to half the cost of conversion, as they may do, and, *as they must do,* if they embark upon a general scheme of conversion, the owner would only increase the rent by 3d. or 4d. per week.

Opponents to the Council making a contribution might still argue that it appears unfair for the Council to make a contribution at this stage when so many owners are doing conversions; it must be said that such owners that have already effected conversions are probably the more considerate ones, but against this it appears that very few of those owners who have effected conversion have not taken advantage of increasing the rents for the improvement effected and must have received the benefit of increased rents over a long period in some instances.

At present conversion is asked for when the closets become defective. Conversion is often achieved in other instances by persuasion on the part of the Sanitary Inspectors.

Forty-three Waste Water Closets were converted during the year. A foul sewer has been laid along Wood Lane and also one is in the process of construction along Noose Lane and Upper Aston Road, and along a portion of Moseley Road. This will enable cesspools and other forms of conveniences to be abolished.

COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF REFUSE.

The collection and disposal of refuse and street sweeping is under the supervision of the Surveyor. The area is now served by ash bins—ashpits having been abolished. The Council operates a bin provision scheme which is working satisfactorily.

The collection and disposal of house refuse and a bi-weekly collection of waste food is maintained by covered refuse collecting vehicles.

Trade waste from shops is collected by the Council at a nominal charge.

Disposal.

Marketable refuse is salvaged. Refuse is disposed of by tipping on two rented sites, one at Darlaston Lane and one at New Invention.

SHOPS ACT.

It was not possible to make routine inspections of the shops in accordance with the Sanitary Provisions of the Shops Acts. Shops were visited following complaints regarding defects in sanitary conditions.

No exemption certificates were issued under the Shops Acts.

An Inspector was appointed during the year for the purpose of Hours of Closing and Employment of Young Persons.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

This branch of the Council's duties has received continual attention. The "Willenhall Smoke Abatement Advisory Committee," which was formed in 1947, has continued its useful pioneer work in encouraging manufacturers to seek a solution to their problems—in the first instance by persuasive means. It should be stressed that there is no intention of the Health Committee of the Council to evade its statutory duties in this respect. In fact, the Health Committee are very keen to enforce its legal obligations in instances where the case warrants it. It should be emphasised, however, that many of the industries from which pollution arises are in the legally exempted categories. In these classes every effort is being made to effect an improvement.

Suggestions have been made to manufacturers and undertakings have been obtained from them to give consideration to replacement of plant, to secure more adequate supervision, to secure proper training of the offending stoker or operative and many other means to effect an improvement.

The Council accepted a proposal of the Advisory Committee to install in conjunction with the Fuel Research Station of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, atmospheric pollution recording instruments. These instruments, although ordered early in 1948, had not arrived by the end of the year.

RODENT CONTROL.

The Council accepted delegated powers for the administration of the Rats and Mice Destruction Act and a Rodent Officer and Rodent Operative are employed.

The private dwelling scheme commenced in 1947 and was completed in March, 1948. A systematic survey was carried out and 3,100 private dwellings were visited.

Following the survey carried out on sewers in June, 1947, a 10% check was made on manholes in March, 1948. Of 120 manholes visited in March, it was necessary to poison only 42. A routine sewer treatment was also carried out in November when a further decrease in the rat population was observed.

Constant treatment is given to the Council's Refuse Tips. Business premises, *e.g.* shops and factories have been treated. A charge for such premises is made to cover the cost of the time of the rodent staff and the poisons used.

Private dwelling houses are treated free.

In addition to poison treatment for rats with Arsenic, Red Squill, Barium, Carbonate and Zince Phosphide, considerable work has been done on the elimination of mice by means of traps.

TABLE I.

BIRTH-RATES, DEATH-RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY, MATERNAL MORTALITY AND CASE RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1948.

Provisional figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns.

	Willen-hall.	England and Wales.	126 C.B's. and Great Towns including London.	148 Smaller Towns(Resident Pop. 25000—50000 at 1931 Census).	London Admin. County.
	Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population.				
Births.					
Live births	20.8	17.9(a)	20.0	19.2	20.1
Still births	0.49	0.42(a)	0.52	0.43	0.39
Deaths.					
All causes	9.4	10.8(a)	11.6	10.7	11.6
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough ...	—	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01
Diphtheria	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01
Tuberculosis	0.91	0.51	0.59	0.46	0.63
Influenza	—	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.02
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis & Polioencephalitis ...	—	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Pneumonia	0.52	0.41	0.38	0.36	0.54
Notifications (Corrected)					
Typhoid Fever ...	—	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever ...	—	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03
Scarlet Fever ...	3.30	1.73	1.90	1.82	1.37
Whooping Cough ...	3.95	3.42	3.51	3.31	3.13
Diphtheria	0.32	0.08	0.10	0.09	0.10
Erysipelas	0.27	0.21	0.23	0.21	0.22
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	9.23	9.34	9.75	8.84	9.17
Pneumonia	0.50	0.73	0.84	0.60	0.57
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	0.03	0.04	0.05	0.04	0.04
Acute Polioencephalitis	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Rates per 1,000 live births.				
RDeaths.					
All causes under 1 year of age	44.0	34(b)	39	32	31
Enteritis and Diarrhoea under 2 years of age	9.4	5.8	8.0	3.7	4.8
	Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births.				
Notifications (Corrected)					
Puerperal Fever and pyrexia	—	6,89	8.90	4.71	7.34

(a) Rates per 1,000 total population. (*b*) Per 1,000 related births.
A dash (—) signifies that there were no deaths or cases.

TABLE II.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN WILLENHALL URBAN DISTRICT DURING 1948. REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S RETURN.

Causes of Death.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	17	8	25
Other forms of Tuberculosis	0	3	3
Syphilitic Diseases	1	1	2
Cancer of buccal cavity, and oesophagus, and uterus	3	1	4
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum ...	7	9	16
Cancer of breast	0	3	3
Cancer of all other sites	15	7	22
Intracranial vascular lesions	6	7	13
Heart Diseases	26	24	50
Other diseases of circulatory system ...	7	3	10
Bronchitis	17	9	26
Pneumonia	9	7	16
Other respiratory diseases	1	0	1
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	3	1	4
Diarrhoea under two years	4	2	6
Other digestive diseases	1	2	3
Nephriti	2	1	3
Premature Birth	3	4	7
Congenital malformation, birth injury, infantile diseases	6	4	10
Suicide	4	0	4
Road Traffic accidents	1	0	1
Other violent causes	8	1	9
All other causes	29	21	50
All causes	170	118	288

Non-civilian deaths are excluded.

TABLE III.

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING 1948.

Causes of Death.	Under 1 week.	1—2 weeks.	2—3 weeks.	3—4 weeks.	Total deaths under 1 month.	1—3 months.	3—6 months.	6—9 months.	9—12 months.	Total deaths under 1 year.
Prematurity	6	—	—	—	6	1	—	—	—	7
Cerebral Haemorrhage ...	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	3
Pneumonia	—	—	1	—	1	—	2	—	1	4
Heart Disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2
Gastro Enteritis	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	1	5
Congenital Malformation ...	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	3
Congenital Syphilis	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Bronchiolitis	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Asphyxia	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1
Atelectasis	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
	13	—	2	1	16	2	7	1	2	28

TABLE IV.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING 1948.

Disease.	Total	Age Groups—years.											
		Under 1.	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—25	25—35	35—45	45—55	65 and over
Scarlet Fever ...	102	—	3	5	7	8	47	24	8	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ...	22	1	2	3	2	—	5	1	5	2	1	—	—
Pneumonia ...	15	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	4	7	1
Erysipelas ...	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	4	1	2
Dysentery ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Poliomyelitis ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	121	14	27	21	16	15	28	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	277	6	36	32	31	55	108	6	1	2	—	—	—
	547	21	69	62	56	78	190	31	15	4	10	8	3

TABLE V.

TUBERCULOSIS—NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1948.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 to 5 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
5 to 15 years	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
15 to 25 years ...	5	5	—	—	1	2	—	1
25 to 35 years ...	6	3	—	2	6	1	—	—
35 to 45 years ...	5	1	—	—	2	1	—	—
45 to 55 years ...	4	4	—	—	4	—	—	—
55 to 65 years ...	2	1	—	—	2	2	—	—
Over 65 years ...	2	—	—	—	3	2	—	—
Totals	26	15	—	3	18	8	—	2

TABLE VI.

TUBERCULOSIS.

in Willenhall (including the former Short Heath U.D.) showing the new cases notified and the deaths each year since the commencement of compulsory notification.

YEAR	NEW CASES		DEATHS	
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
1912	85	—	19	1
1913	87	24	22	13
1914	66	22	21	13
1915	55	11	13	12
1916	65	13	23	11
1917	71	18	28	6
1918	56	8	44	4
1919	29	6	20	7
1920	29	6	14	4
1921	24	—	24	2
1922	55	15	34	7
1923	45	12	30	9
1924	19	5	27	5
1925	67	14	25	10
1926	71	11	24	5
1927	25	12	25	4
1928	39	12	17	3
1929	40	9	34	3
1930	42	3	29	3
1931	36	5	27	1
1932	36	3	16	6
1933	41	11	26	4
1934	45	5	14	5
1935	33	9	25	5
1936	47	5	14	3
1937	44	8	25	6
1938	45	8	22	6
1939	30	7	20	3
1940	40	5	24	3
1941	40	9	25	9
1942	38	7	23	—
1943	49	12	18	3
1944	42	10	19	3
1945	30	4	25	—
1946	35	9	20	1
1947	40	9	20	7
1948	41	3	25	3
Totals	1,682	330	861	190

TABLE VII.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED FROM 1943 TO 1948.

DISEASE.	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948
Scarlet Fever ...	202	55	89	51	45	102
Diphtheria	23	18	18	19	21	22
Pneumonia ...	52	35	40	21	18	15
Erysipelas	5	6	6	7	3	8
Puerperal Pyrexia	7	2	2	2	1	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever	—	—	3	4	6	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	6	1	1	1	—	—
Dysentery	1	2	1	—	31	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	1	—	—	2	1
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	2	—
Chicken-pox ...	—	—	—	—	10	—
Acute Polioencephalitis	—	—	—	—	1	—
Measles	362	14	262	6	409	277
Whooping Cough ...	28	92	51	71	68	121
Malaria	—	—	—	1	1	—
	686	226	474	183	618	547

TABLE VIII.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937—ANNUAL REPORT.

1.—INSPECTIONS.

Premises (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number on Register (3)	Number of			M/c line No. (7)
			Inspections (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupie s prosecuted (6)	
(*i*) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	1	—	—	—	—	1
(*ii*) Factories not included in (*i*) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	2	427	75	15	—	2
(*iii*) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority † (excluding out-workers' premises)	3	—	—	—	—	3
TOTAL	—	427	75	15	—	—

2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars	M/c line No.	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted	M/c line No.
		Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	4	10	—	—	3	—	4
Overcrowding (S.2)	5	—	—	—	—	—	5
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	6	—	—	—	—	—	6
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	7	3	—	—	3	—	7
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	8	—	—	—	—	—	8
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) (*a*) insufficient	9	2	—	—	1	—	9
(*b*) Unsuitable or defective	10	7	—	—	—	—	10
(*c*) Not separate for sexes	11	—	—	—	—	—	11
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	12	2	—	—	2	—	12
TOTAL ...	60	24	—	—	9	—	60

TABLE IX.

SUMMARY OF THE PRINCIPAL ROUTINE VISITS OF THE SANITARY INSPECTORS.

Complaints, requests for visits of Inspectors, made to the Sanitary Department	2,144
Primary Inspection of Dwelling Houses	1,699
Absence of adequate water supply, or unsatisfactory water supply	52
Drainage	92
Stables and Piggeries	35
Offensive trades	11
Fried Fish Shops	55
Tents, Vans and Sheds	46
Factories	35
Workshops	75
Bakehouses	2
Cinemas	12
Smoke Observations	31
Schools	7
Shops (Sanitary provisions of Shops Acts)	10
Accumulations of refuse	18
Waste Water Closets and Water Closets	205
Inspections of premises where animals, fowls, etc. are kept	43
Verminous Premises	257
Infectious Disease	106
Slaughterhouses	229
Knacker's Yard	81
Cottager's Pigs	138
Fishmongers and Poultry Dealers	8
Green Grocers and Fruiterers	6
Cowsheds and Dairies	24
Ice Cream Premises	106
Other Food Premises (Sec. 13 and 14 Food and Drugs Act, 1938)	69
Market Stalls	359
Restaurants	12
Hawkers	20
Inspections not classified above	171
Visits of work in progress	220

Intimations and Statutory Notices served.

No. of Informal Notices served	337
No. of Informal Notices complied with	325
No. of Statutory Notices served	143
No. of Statutory Notices complied with	100

TABLE X.

IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED BY COMPLIANCE WITH NOTICES.

Defective staircase	12
Defective wall and ceiling plaster or brickwork	207
Defective water closets and waste water closets	185
Defective rain water pipe or eaves gutter	39
Defective doors	13
Defective firegrates	22
Defective roofs	103
Defective windows	57
Defective floors	48
Defective sink or waste water pipe to sink	16
Defective inspection chamber cover	10
Defective paved yard	1
Defective drains	57
Defective chimnies	13
Defective washing copper or boiler	9
Defective inlet gully	2
Defective underground soft water tank	1
Defective yard surface	11
Vans removed	46
Accumulations	12
Dampness	12
Houses infested with vermin	17
Burst water supply pipe	21
Keeping of fowls	1
Insufficient closet accommodation	2
No doors to W.C.	1
Walls not kept clean	21
Waste Water Closets converted	43
Hot water provided to food premises	16

TABLE XI.

FOODS DESTROYED DURING YEAR 1948.

Fruit and Vegetables.

Beetroot, 3 tins
Carrots, 3 tins.
Mixed Vegetables, 2 tins.
Potatoes, 3 tins.
Peas, 55 tins.
Tomatoes, 1 tin.
Beans, 6 tins.
Grape Fruit, 11 tins.
Apricots, 4 tins.
Apples (Bot.) 13 bottles.
Plums (Bot.) 10 bottles.
Plums (Tin), 4 tins.
Fruit Cocktail, 2 tins.
Prunes, 50 lbs.
Dates, 1 x 9oz. Box.
Apples (tin), 3 tins.
Rhubarb, 2 tins.
Gooseberries, 1 tin.

Meat.

Bacon, 9 tins.
Minced Beef Loaf, 152 tins.
Steak & Kidney Pudding, 4 tins.
Danish Pork, 4 tins.
Pork Sausage, 4 tins.
Meat Roll, 1 tin.
Ham, 16 lbs.
Corned Beef, 1 tin.
Spiced Ham, 89 tins.
Pologna, 3 tins.
Pork Product, 3 tins.
Dutch Brawn, 3 tins.

Tinned Milk.

Evap. Milk, 72 tins.
Nestles Milk, 1 tin.

Fish.

Salmon, Grade III, 5 tins.
Fish Balls, 1 tin.
Mussels, 19 tins.
Fish Cakes, 1 tin.
Pilchards, 6 tins.
Sardines, 1 tin.
Herrings, 1 tin.

Other Foods.

Plum Puddings, 3 tins.
Spaghetti, 4 tins.
Fish Paste, 1 tin.
Chocolate Crunches, 2 dozen.
Crab Paste, 2 tins.
Marmalade, 13 tins.
Jam, 5 tins.
Meat Soup, 1 tin.
Pea Soup, 5 tins.
Vegetable Soup, 3 tins.
Pickle, 3 tins.
Cheese, 45 lbs.
Butter, 9½ lbs.
Dried Egg, 72 x 5 oz.

Meat.

1,255 pigs have been examined, and the following meat and offals were surrendered and destroyed.

Tuberculosis	...	10 stomachs, 121 heads, 2 livers, 15 plucks, 3 sets of lungs, 3 livers, 2 collar pieces and 3 carcases with all organs.
Pneumonia	...	10 Lungs.
Congestion	...	1 set lungs.

Hepatitis	...	2 livers.
Pericarditis	...	1 pluck.
Carcinoma	...	1 lung.
T. Echinococcus		1 liver.
Fatty Degeneration		1 liver.
Cirrhosis	...	1 liver.

320 horses have been examined and the following meat and offals were surrendered and destroyed.

T. Echinococcus		57 livers.
Fevered	...	1 Carcase and all organs.
		1 bovine carcase and all organs.
Anthracosis	...	9 lungs.
Ruptured	...	2 spleens.
Emphysema	...	6 lungs.
Fatty Infiltration	...	1 liver.
Broken Pelvis		1 hind quarter.
Pneumonia	...	1 lung.
Fatty Degeneration		4 livers.

Other meat surrendered and destroyed :—

Tuberculosis	...	1 bovine head.
Fibroma	...	1 bovine kidney.
Mastitis	...	I Udder.

Total weight of meat destroyed during the year 1948 is 2 tons 6 cwts. 88 lbs.

TABLE XII.

ICE CREAM SAMPLES FOR METHYLENE BLUE TEST.

Date taken.	*No. taken.*	*Grade 1.*	*Grade 2.*	*Grade 3.*	*Grade 4.*
January	4	3	1	—	—
February	5	1	2	2	—
March	12	6	1	4	1
April	10	2	2	1	5
May	5	—	1	2	2
June	11	2	—	2	7
July and August ...	25	5	1	7	12
September	10	6	2	1	1
October	3	2	1	—	—
	85	27	11	19	28

No. of Ice Cream Premises registered during 1948 ... 10

Premises on register for manufacture or sale of Ice Cream :

Manufacturers by Hot Mix Method 1
Manufacturers by Cold Mix Method 5

No. of shops registered for the sale of Ice Cream ... 10

REGISTRATION OF HAWKERS.

No. of Hawkers registered during 1948 under the Willenhall Urban District Council Act 15

TABLE XIII.

MILK.

Twelve samples of Tuberculin Tested Milk were taken. One failed the Methylene Blue Test, and the other eleven passed.

TABLE XIV.

ACTION TAKEN FOR DISINFECTION OF PREMISES AND ARTICLES.

Number of rooms disinfected with Formalin or Formaldehyde 42
Number of rooms disinfected with Sulphur 11
Number of rooms sprayed with Insecticide to destroy vermin 37
Articles disinfected (bedding) 462
Bedding destroyed 23

TABLE XV.

SAMPLING BY FOOD AND DRUGS AUTHORITY (STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL).

Particulars of Samples of Milk taken by the Staffordshire County Council in Willenhall Urban District for Bacteriological and Biological examination.

Period 1st January to 31st December, 1948.

Designation.	*No. of samples submitted.*	*Cleanliness.*		*Phosphatase*		*Containing Tubercle Bacilli.*
		Satis.	*Unsatis.*	*Pass.*	*Fail.*	
Tuberculin Tested	6	5	1	—	—	—
Pasteurised ...	3*	3	—	3	—	—
Sterilised ...	14*	14	—	14	—	—
Undesignated ...	41**	33	8	—	—	1

* No biological test.
** No biological test on 16 samples.

Return of Samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for the year 1948, in Willenhall.

34 samples of general foods were taken, seven of which were incorrect, as follows :—

Cayenne Pepper—Informal sample. Partially exhausted. No proceedings instituted.

Cayenne Pepper—Formal sample. Partially exhausted. No proceedings instituted.

Mixed Pickles—No ingredients stated. No proceedings instituted.

Thyme—Informal sample contained excessive amount of sand and siliceous matter—7.7%. No proceedings instituted.

Thyme—Formal sample 6.6% excessive sand and siliceous matter. No proceedings instituted.

Sausage—Pork, deficient in meat. Fined £5 0s. 0d., costs £2 1s. 0d.

Liquorice Powder—Excessive moisture caused caking. No proceedings instituted.

During the year 50 samples of Milk were submitted, two of which were incorrect as follows :—

Milk—17.7% deficient in fat. Milk retailer fined £3 0s. 0d., costs £6 1s. 0d.

Milk Sterilised—6.7% deficient in fat. No proceedings instituted.